Volume 41/Number 12 July 2009



The Village of Indian Head Park Celebrating 50 years, 1959-2009

Administration's Message

Dear Residents:

On August 4, 1959, the Village of Indian Head Park was incorporated. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of that "Golden Milestone" in the history of our community and is cause for celebration. We dedicate this issue of the Smoke Signals to the commemoration of our Golden Anniversary. Hopefully, you already know that the Village will honor this special date with a celebration on Saturday, August 8th from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Blackhawk Park. We will have food, fun, and entertainment for your enjoyment. All of our residents and friends are invited. We hope to see you there!

As we commemorate 50 years since incorporation as a village, it is interesting to note how and why our town began, what we have accomplished and where we are heading. In the 31 years that I have lived in Indian Head Park, I have had the privilege to personally observe and be involved in some of the accomplishments that have taken place. Many of our "Golden Milestones" are noted elsewhere in this newsletter.

Did you know that our Village is named after the Indian Head Golf Course? The golf course was located in the area of our village west of Wolf Road. The area had previously been inhabited by the Potawatomie Tribe who left behind various artifacts including arrowheads. The original development of what is now Indian Head Park began in 1946 with the development of twenty (20) lots west of Wolf Road by developer Norman Higby. Nineteen (19) families are credited with being the original owners in Higby's development.

The impetus for incorporation of our village was the desire for a reliable source of potable water. In the early years of our community prior to incorporation, the fledgling community faced various difficulties concerning inadequate water, electricity, refuse disposal and the lack of municipal services. In January 1951, several residents filed for an incorporation to furnish water from a common well and pump and distribute the water on a cooperative basis with expenses shared by the members. The initial cost to join was \$10 per family with annual dues to be used for costs, maintenance and

repairs. Thereafter, snow removal was added to the services. By the later 1950's, the challenges facing the local residents caused them to decide to incorporate as a village and on May 13, 1958, a petition was filed for this purpose with Cook County. Following a large majority vote to approve the petition in June 1959, the Village of Indian Head Park was officially incorporated as a Village on August 4, 1959.

Since the birth of our Village, we have accomplished much. The water that was originally supplied to residents from the municipal well has been replaced with water from Lake Michigan. We have our own police department under the charge of Chief Frank Alonzo to protect us, look after our safety, and help us in emergencies. Through our membership in the West Central Dispatch System, we are able to benefit from the latest advances in technology for the benefit of our residents at a fraction of the cost.

Our Public Works Department headed by Superintendent Ed Santen maintains the operation of our sewer and water system, provides snow removal services in the winter and grounds maintenance in the summer. They perform the leaf pick-up service and the upkeep needed for the various public buildings and infrastructure. These services are provided from our modern public works facility on 70th Place.

Along with Deputy Clerk Kathy Leach and Finance Director Dave Brink, we have a full time administrative staff to perform the countless tasks necessary for the operation of your village government including the collection of revenue, payment of bills, and the coordination of the numerous tasks necessary for us to accomplish our municipal mission. Like our police department, the administrative functions are performed from our Village Hall which is a multi-functional facility and the place where your Village Board and various village commissions and homeowner associations hold their monthly meetings.

We have grown since the beginning with the annexation over time of various parcels of land that are now an integral part of our community: Indian Woods Development,

Message continued from page 1

Arrowhead Trail, Flagg Creek Condominiums, Chestnut on the Green Phase 1 and Phase 2 on the south end of town to Ashbrook Development, Acacia, Sequoya and Hiawatha, Timber Ridge Court, Indian Wood Lane and homes along Plainfield Road on the north. From Old Town, 45 Acres, and New Town on the west to Wilshire Green, Indian Ridge Condominiums, Indian Ridge Lakes Condominiums, 65th Place, Howard Avenue and Laurel Avenue on the east, we have grown. We have American Body Company at 70th Place, the Chicagoland Roofers Apprenticeship Training Facility, the Indian Head Park Plaza, Wolf's Head Inn, Bozena Day Spa, Blando Jewelers, Dr. John Skreko D.D.S., the various hair salons, 7-Eleven Plaza, the Dome Restaurant (owned by resident Chris Gabrielides), the Brookside Plaza on Joliet Road, 7-Eleven Citgo, Willow Hills Restaurant, the Walgreen's and several businesses in between who have located in our community to serve our needs.

We look to the future development in our community of the old Mazur property and in ways that we have not yet had the vision to conceive. Perhaps the establishment of a "town center" will become a reality some day. Ours is a community rich in history as reflected by the Lyonsville Church and the Heritage Center. As residents, we have much to be thankful for from the fact that we chose to live in Indian Head Park. On a personal level, I am grateful for the opportunity and the trust you have placed in me to serve as your mayor.

Finally, on behalf of the Village Board, I wish you all an enjoyable summer and hope that you take the time to join us on August 8th at Blackhawk Park as we celebrate the 50th birthday of Indian Head Park. Happy 50th Anniversary Indian Head Park and to all our residents who make this a truly special place to live!

Sincerely,

Richard S. Andrews, Mayor

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For Sale..... New digital converter box. Call (708) 246-2355.

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees 7:30 p.m.:

Special Board Meeting, Wednesday, July 29, 2009 Regular Board Meeting, Thursday, August 13, 2009

Planning and Zoning Commission 7:30 p.m.:

Tuesday, August 4, 2009 Tuesday, September 1, 2009

Fire/Police Commission 7:00 p.m.:

Thursday, September 3, 2009

E-911 Board 6:30 p.m.: Thursday, September 17, 2009

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

Smoke Signals

Volume 41, Number 12

Circulation 2000

Newsletter Coordinator, Kathy Leach (708) 246-7099, extension 101 kleach@indianheadpark-il.gov

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

Deadline date for the next issue is August 14, 2009.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525 (708) 246-3080

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Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and

Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor: Richard S. Andrews

Trustees: Deborah A. Anselmo Carol Coleman

Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnaufer Anne Bermier Matthew P. Walsh II

Village Clerk: Joseph V. Consolo

Chief of Police/

Administrator: Frank Alonzo, Jr.

Police Dept. Non-Emergency 246-4534

Emergency 9-1-1 Non-Emergency 352-9229

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency 352-97 Emergency 9-1-1

Tree News You Can Use

Steps in planting a tree

The ideal time to plant trees and shrubs is during the dormant season-in the fall after leaf drop or early spring before bud break are the best times to plant. Weather conditions are cool and allow plants to establish roots in the new location before spring rains and summer heat stimulates new top growth. However, trees properly cared for in the nursery or garden center, and given the appropriate care during transport to prevent damage, can be planted throughout the growing season. In either situation, proper handling during planting is essential to ensure a healthy future for new trees and shrubs. Before you begin planting your tree, be sure you have had all underground utilities located prior to digging. Proper care allows the tree to quickly establish in its new location.

Mulch the base of the tree. Mulch acts as a blanket to hold moisture, moderate soil temperature extremes (both hot and cold), and reduces competition from grass and weeds. Some good mulch choices are leaf litter, pine straw, shredded bark, peat moss, or wood chips. A 2" layer is ideal. When placing mulch do not pile it up against the trunk. Doing so may cause decay of the living bark at the base of the tree. A mulch-free area, 1" – 2" wide at the base of the tree, is sufficient to avoid moist bark conditions and prevent decay.

Continue with routine care. Hopefully, favorable weather conditions will ensure that your new tree will grow and thrive and become a valuable landscape asset. Appropriately selected trees provide a long-lasting source of beauty and enjoyment for people of all ages. When questions arise about the care of your tree, be sure to consult a local ISA Certified Arborist, a tree care specialist, or a local garden center professional for assistance.

Advertisement



Tree Health

Insects and Disease

appropriate treatment.

Insects and diseases can threaten tree health. As soon as you notice any abnormality in the appearance of your tree, you should begin a careful examination of the problem. By identifying the specific symptoms of damage and understanding their causes, you may be able to diagnose the problem and select an

Stress

Basic elements that influence plant health include sufficient water and light, and a proper balance of nutrients. Too much or too little of any of these environmental conditions may cause plant stress. Environmental stress weakens plants and makes them more susceptible to insect and disease attack. Trees deal with environmental stresses, such as shading and competition for water and nutrients.

petition for water and nutrients in their native environment, by adjusting their growth and development patterns to reflect the availability of the resources. Although trees are

adapted to living in stressful conditions in nature, many times the stresses they experience in the landscape are more than they can handle and may make them more susceptible to insects and diseases.





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The Golden Years

incorporated on August 4, 1959. Village historical documents reference a log hotel on Wolf Road in 1834, the first school house in Lyons Township in 1834 and the organization of the Lyonsville Congregational Church in 1843 an ardently sought destination on the "underground railroad" of the Civil War era. Plainfield Road once was an Indian trail with a stage coach route extending from Chicago to Ottawa at the Illinois River. The genesis of modern day Indian Head Park began with a 20 lot subdivision in 1946. The Indian Head Golf Course soon gave way to additional housing. With relatively nominal growth in the 1960's, significant development occurred in the 1970's with the annexation of the Acacia Golf Course and the development of the Acacia Townhomes.

The Village of Indian Head Park was

Prior to the incorporation of the Village of Indian Head Park in August of 1959 local residents needed to address several issues. In 1955, Nicor Gas discussed with the Board at that time the possibility of Nicor Gas servicing Indian Head Park. Ultimately, an agreement was reached and the Nicor service was installed. Also, in this same year, there were two more issues facing residents. First, Unit IV (the single family home section of IHP on the west side of Wolf Road) was in the planning stages of development and the area was in need of sewer service. The Hinsdale Sanitary District, to which Unit IV would be hooked up to, also granted permission for some residents to connect into this service providing that land immediately joined the land already accepted by the Hinsdale Sanitary District. In other words, for a lot at the north end of Blackhawk and Pontiac to be joined to the sewer, all intervening lots had to be serviced by the Hinsdale Sanitary District. The cost to each resident to connect services at that time was approximately \$1,000 per resident. The Cook County Department of Public Health encouraged further sewer hook-ups as they had recommended chlorination, additional storage facilities and close adherence to regulations governing location of septic fields. In October of 1955, Mr. Higby installed the first chlorinating system and he was in favor of enlargement of the reservoir. Second, the local residents in need of a reliable yet economical source of potable water, incorporated a water service in the area funded by membership fees and dues. A common well was established and member residents hooked up. In the fall of 1955, Beg Schlesinger became the first woman Board member! John Kilker and Al Horn were very involved with the water delivery services to the Village. Long time resident Bob Rehak, and former Village Trustee, helped to organize the police department in the early years.

The first issue of the Village's newsletter in 1955 was entitled "Indian Head Herald". A contest was later held to name the local newsletter and "Smoke Signals" evolved. Special thanks to Dorothy Bailey who was one of the first editors of the Village newsletter and who also kept very good notes

about the history of the community in the early years leading up to the incorporation of the Village. In April of 1956, the first vehicle stickers were issued in Indian Head Park. In September of 1956, it seemed evident that not enough homeowners were in agreement in having sewers connected.

The Metropolitan Sanitary District held a meeting in October of that year proposing a referendum that would bring their sanitary sewers to all of Cook County.

Charlie Bohan was the first president of the now incorporated Village, Carl Goetz the first treasurer and Merritt Whitmer the first clerk. Trustees were: Bill Luby, Fred Lindsay, Marjorie Luck, John Odchodnicky, Ed Skudrna, Mr. McVeigh and Mr. Wassel. The Western Springs Savings and Loan and the First National Bank of LaGrange handled the bank accounts for the Village. The Bedford Park Police patrolled the area periodically since a police department in Indian Head Park was not yet established.

The need for services of a police department was discussed and residents were in favor of establishing a police department. The first police patrol was conducted by volunteers and in the later years a police department was established including a chief of police. In the same year, two trustees recommended installation of a 60,000 gallon water storage tank at ground level at a cost of \$20,000. A special assessment was imposed at a cost to each homeowner of about \$222.00. William Gurrie and Joe Meyer of 62nd Street (later named Sequoya) and 63rd Street (later named Hiawatha) approached the Board to request possible annexation of both streets and to connect to the sewer services. A special meeting of the Board was called on April 20th to canvass the results of the recent election. John Mlyncki, Leo Fregeau and Fred Lindsay were elected to four year terms as members to serve on the Village Board. Nicor Gas installed all gas mains this year to serve residents of Indian Head Park.

In December of 1956, a bond referendum was approved by the voters for an extension of the Pleasantview Fire Protection District to include a second fire station. In early 1958, the Board and several residents became more and more convinced that incorporation would be advantageous in many ways. In May of this year, this proposal was presented to the residents, and as a result, a petition was filed with the Cook County Courts. An election was held on June 9th and of the 114 votes cast, 92 favored incorporation. The previously established Indian Head Park Improvement Association, turned over all corporation assets including water facilities to the Village of Indian Head Park which was incorporated in 1959. Our first Village president was Charlie Bohan. Around this time, the Village decided to join the Illinois Municipal League and Ed Malek was appointed Chief

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

of Police with nine men serving as volunteer police officers. A suggestion was made also to build a Village Hall to serve the community, which took place many years later in 1980. The initial village hall was a trailer located on the site of the present Village Hall where people like Village Clerk Mary Radice performed the tasks of our early municipal government.

In 1964, the first zoning ordinance was established commonly referred to as "64-1" to this day. Joe Graffy was sworn in as Village Treasurer and he later implemented a voucher system for bills and general ledger system for accounting procedures. During the late 1960's, 1970's and 1980's many Village ordinance regulations were established which later became the official Indian Head Park Municipal Code. Just 25 years ago, the Indian Head Park Police Department had a staff of eight sworn full-time police officers and twelve auxiliary officers. Thomas Rowan was the Chief of Police at that time.

The staff included the following officers: Robert Cervenka, James Clendening, Lane Niemann, Curt Novak, Thomas Pott, Christopher Spears, Kathleen Sullivan-Ryan and Kenneth Tomaszek. We are proud to say that we have two of these fine officers with us 25 years later serving the department, Sergeant Curt Novak and Officer Jim Clendening.

Space prohibits a more detailed recitation of all of our accomplishments on the road of progress. However, a few of

the "golden milestones" over the years include: Village of Indian Head Park Incorporation (1959) Smoke Signals, First Publication (1961), Acacia Townhomes Annexation (1969), Annexation of the Lyonsville Congregational Church (1970), Annexation of Indian Head Park Plaza (1971), Annexation of Bartlett's Subdivision (1972), Wilshire Green Annexation, (1972), Flagg Creek Condos Annexation (1972), Annexation of Hiawatha/Sequoya (1972), Chestnut on the Green Annexation (1974), Arrowhead Trail Subdivision (1976), 45 Acres Annexation (1976), Indian Ridge Lakes Development (1977), Construction of the Municipal Facility (1980), Access to Lake Michigan Water (1982), Timber Ridge View Subdivision (1989), Indian Woods Development (1991), Ashbrook Development Annexation (1995).

There have been many residents who have served over the years in various capacities on the Village Board and various commissions. Too numerous to name here, these unsung but dedicated individuals have made their mark in the history and progress of our village. On behalf of the entire Village Board, thanks to all who have helped to make Indian Head Park the community it is today — a great place to live! A very special thanks to Deputy Village Clerk Kathy Leach whose tireless efforts in researching our archives is largely responsible for the information contained here.

Mayor Richard S. Andrews and the Village Board of Trustees.

IHP PAST PRESIDENTS

Name	From	То
Charles Bohan	Aug. 1959	Apr. 1963
Leo Fregeau	Nov. 1964	Apr. 1965
O. William Olsen	Apr. 1965	Apr. 1967
Leonard Luck	Apr. 1967	Apr. 1971
Charles Holt	Apr. 1971	Apr. 1975
Jerome Cihak	Apr. 1975	Apr. 1979
Martha Elterman	May 1979	Jun. 1980
A. B. Kisciunas	Jul. 1980	Apr. 1987
Werner Perthel	Apr. 1991	Apr. 1995
Edward Jaeky	Apr. 1995	Apr. 1999
Richard F. Pellegrino	Apr. 1999	Apr. 2007

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TEEPEE +++ TOPICS

Congratulations to the following students from Indian Head Park on their academic achievements!

Cindy Truckenbrodt graduated in May with a B.A. from the University of Missouri. She majored in history. David Anthony Moskos graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with honors in May, Summa cum laude with a 3.90 plus grade average. He received a bachelor degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences. David also spent four years in the Marines, two of those years serving in the Iraq War. Mrs. Audrey Moskos, his mother, is very proud of David's service to our Country as well as his pursuit of a college degree. Dane Wilhite earned a master's degree in accounting from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Erica Andrews received her Master's Degree in Math Education from DePaul University. Jonathan Andrews received his B.A. Degree in History from Lewis University graduating with High Honors.

The following students were named to the Nazareth Academy honor roll for the 3rd quarter: Anthony Bartucci, Nora O'Connell, Joseph Pellegrino, Rourke McCollom, Colleen

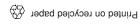
McCollom, Clare Bohne, Andrew Bartucci, Nicole Yu.

Elizabeth Wallace graduated this June from De Paul University with a bachelor of arts degree in communication. Jillian Sullivan was named to the honor roll at Montini High School.

Shannon Toland was named to the dean's list at Eastern Illinois University with a 3.6 grade point average.

Gradulations (!) Kate and Megan Trifilio shouted as their daddy, Chris, received his diploma, completing his MBA program at De Paul in June. Lori and Tom Davis were there as well, cheering their son-in-law, as was wife Lauren. Chris is the Senior Vice-President of Convertible Securities at Mesirow Financial in Chicago.

Our condolences to the families and friends of the following Indian Head Park residents who passed away: Kathy Cihak, who was the wife of past Village President Jerry Cihak. Ronald Novotny, age 69, who was the owner of Crestway Flooring in Lyons for over forty years.



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